

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 EURE-00  
SSO-00 INRE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 H-01  
MC-02 /072 W

-----261726Z 127420 /50

O 261444Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3638  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
CSAF WASHDC  
USIA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION NATO  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD  
ASD WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OH  
OSAF WASHDC  
CASEUR BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 2000

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, MPOL, MILI, DA, NO  
SUBJECT: NORWAY AND THE LOA: GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

RFS: (A) OSLO 1982 (B) OSLO 1748

1. DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY HOLST, ACCOMPANIED BY SEJNAES  
OF MOD STAFF AND YAKOWITZ OF MOI STAFF CALLED ON AMBASSADOR  
TODAY TO REPORT ON STORTING (PARLIAMENT) ACTION ON F-16  
AUTHORIZATION AND TO VOICE WHAT ARE IN EFFECT GON PRE-  
CONDITIONS TO SIGNING OF LOA (REPORTED REFTEL A).

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2. HOLST STATED THAT STORTING HAD JUST APPROVED F-16  
AUTHORIZATION BILL AFTER A RELATIVELY SHORT DEBATE, BY A VOTE  
OF 112 TO 20. HOWEVER, HE SAID QUESTIONS NOW REDUCED ITSELF  
TO GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION OF STORTING MANDATE VIS A VIS  
SIGNING OF LOA. HOLST EMPHASIZED THAT GON IS RELUCTANT TO  
SIGN LOA BEFORE IT WAS SATISFIED ON THREE POINTS:

1. CLARIFICATION ON POSSIBLE EFFECT ON F-16 UNIT COST OF RECENT HOUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO CUT U.S. F-16 BUY AND PROGRAM. NORWEGIANS ARE CLEARLY RELUCTANT TO SIGN LOA IF THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF MAJOR PRICE INCREASES RESULTING FROM THESE POSSIBLE CUTS, BETWEEN TIME OF SIGNATURE AND DELIVERY AS IT WOULD EXPOSE GOVERNMENT TO ACCUSATIONS THAT PARLIAMENT WAS NOT KEPT FULLY INFORMED.

2. THAT THE STORES MANAGEMENT AND INTERFERENCE BLANKER CONTRACTS BE SIGNED; AND

3. THAT THREE OTHER SPECIFIC PROJECTS BE INCLUDED IN COPRODUCTION PLAN; TO WIT, ALUMINUM SHEET, AIS, AND SIMULATOR.

3. IN SPECIFIC TERMS HOLST REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY SEEK TO OBTAIN ASSESSMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION TO INCLUDE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION AND ESTIMATION OF POSSIBILITY OF HOUSE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION BEING PASSED BY FULL CONGRESS. HE FURTHER REQUESTED THAT WE UNDERScore CONNECTION BETWEEN GON'S SIGNATURE OF LOA AND FINALIZATION OF TWO CONTRACTS ON STORES MANAGEMENT AND INTERFERENCE BLANKER CURRENTLY PENDING AT THE SPO, FINALLY, HOLST ASKED THAT WE SEEK ASSURANCE THAT USG WILL SUPPORT AMENDMENT OF COPRODUCTION PLAN TO INCLUDE ALUMINUM SHEET, AID AND SIMULATORS. HOLST SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT USG NOT IN A POSITION TO GUARANTEE THE INCLUSION WHICH IS A STEERING COMMITTEE DECISION. GON ALSO AWARE THAT EVEN IF THESE INCLUDED, NORWAY IS NOT GUARANTEED CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTRACTS.

4. AS A FINAL POINT, HOLST SAID HE WISHED TO EXPRESS HIS GOVERNMENT'S GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT POTENTIAL COST ESCALATIONS IN TWO SPECIFIC AREAS: TOOLING COST AND ASSEMBLY LINE MAINTENANCE COSTS. HE STATED THAT ANY NEW COST ELEMENTS MUST BE FINANCED WITHIN PARAMETERS SET BY STARTING TODAY.

5. COMMENT: THE SITUATION SEEMS TO HAVE CLARIFIED ITSELF SOMEWHAT SINCE REFTEL A BUT IT IS STILL UNCLEAR WHETHER GON WILL ULTIMATELY JOIN THEIR EPG PARTNERS, SPECIFICALLY THE DANES, IN APPROACHING THE USG FOR AN EXTENSION (AS REPORTED REFTEL B). WHAT IS CLEAR AT THE MOMENT IS THAT GON IS USING LEVERAGE OF NON-SIGNATURE WHILE THEY HAVE IT TO GET BEST POSSIBLE DEAL; ALSO GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO HAVE PUT ITSELF ON RECORD WITH US ON VARIOUS POINTS RAISED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE RESPOND ASAP TO THE THREE POINTS RAISED BY GON.

ANDERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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